

Palmetto

PARTISAN

The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans



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February 2007

NCAA's "Bread and Circuses"

The phrase "bread and circuses" was coined by the ancient poet Juvenal to describe the practice of Roman emperors who gave unlimited free wheat to the poor and put on circus games as a means of pacifying the populace. They correctly believed that much of their citizenry would be willing to overlook systemic problems in the troubled Roman Empire if they were entertained and their bellies full.

A modern embodiment of this phenomenon can be seen in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, or NCAA. The NCAA is faced with a number of serious problems, including a number of violent crimes committed by athletes,

"... any athlete or coach that is uncomfortable with a flag flying in a distant location is a bit of a pantywaist ...What's next, a ban on booing?"

coaches and boosters using sex and money to lure recruits, and pathetic athlete graduation rates, thereby reinforcing the idea that scholarship athletes are little more than gladiators, hired to help schools get a larger share of the NCAA's lucrative payout.

So how does the NCAA react to these problems, which have greatly diminished its image? By wheeling out its own bread and circuses, in the form of attacks on state symbols and mascots that they deem "offensive."

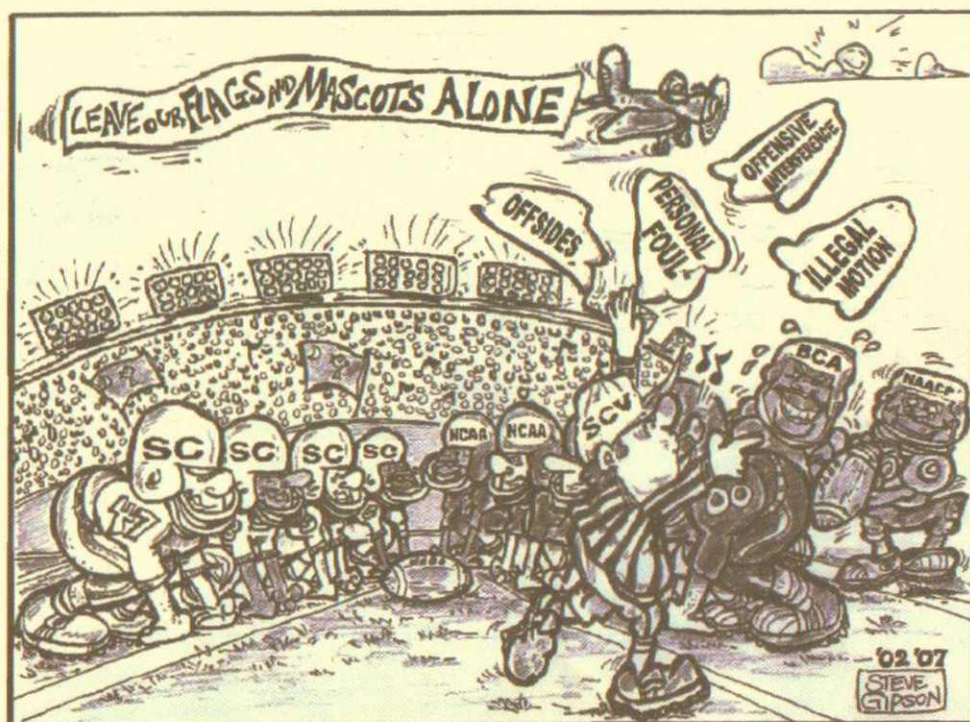
Nationwide, this can be seen in the organization's assault on schools which dare to be so politically incorrect as to use the names of Indians or Indian tribes as mascots. Here in South Carolina we saw it as the NCAA pondered expanding its ban on the hosting of championship events in the state because the Confederate flag is displayed on Statehouse grounds.

The flag, of course, was raised over the State House in 1962, part of a nationwide celebration of the centennial of the War Between the States. It got little attention here or elsewhere until the 1990s, when the NAACP decided to implement a tourism boycott of the state as a way to swell its coffers. The compromise reached by legislators in 2000 moved the flag from the dome to the Statehouse grounds, next to the Confederate Soldiers' Monument, which was created by the Daughters of the Confederacy to honor South Carolina soldiers lost in the war.

But the NAACP couldn't give up its cash cow, so the group refused to rescind its tourism ban and continued to agitate for the eradication of the banner. The boycott, though, was largely a flop. It was forgotten by nearly everyone until the group's fellow travelers in the NCAA stepped in.

In 2001, when the special-interest Black Coaches Association complained about the flag, the NCAA reacted accordingly and demanded the banner's removal. Last year, the NCAA said it would look at expanding its ban of championship events in South Carolina, possibly disallowing baseball and football teams from hosting postseason games because the flag remains on Statehouse grounds.

Floyd Keith, executive director of the Black Coaches Association, summed up succinctly just how out of touch



his organization - and liberals nationwide - is with many Southerners.

"I don't know that anybody is comfortable playing in a place where they fly the Confederate flag," he told the Associated Press.

So, let's see: South Carolina, and the Southeast as a whole, has spent a great deal of time, money and effort over the past three-plus decades trying to rectify the race-related problems of the previous 300 years; it has, like the rest of the country, employed affirmative-action and other programs in a bid to give minorities advantages they were denied previously; and the region as a whole is generally perceived as

See **NCAA**, on page 7

Cat Litter Improves, *The State* Newspaper Now Totally Obsolete!

On the single most important and significant date in the near 400-year history of the State of South Carolina *The State* newspaper again showed its true colors. Ignoring an unquestionable historical fact, or even worse, distorting true history for its own self serving reasons, *The State* continues to demonstrate why the vast number of citizens of this great state look upon it with contempt and distrust.

As aptly reported by the *Charleston Mercury*:

"Passed unanimously at 1:15 o'clock, P.M., December 20th, 1860, an Ordinance to dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other States unified with her under the compact entitled 'The Constitution of the United States of America'."

At that precise moment in history our state became a sovereign nation and remained so for almost two months before officially joining with six other states in Montgomery, Alabama to establish the Confederate States of America. This date, December 20th, resonates and beckons recognition, against ALL other single dates, as the most significant in our state's history...period!

Some will say that perhaps February 17th should be considered for this historical honor. Two events did occur on that date a year apart: the success and subsequent sinking of *The Hunley* submarine in 1864, and the burning of Columbia by Sherman in 1865. Both events are hugely significant and immensely important, but they did not necessarily affect the entire state, its citizens and, to be sure, its future as did Secession.

Nope, the honor as *The Most Important Date in the History of South Carolina* goes to...
ta-da! December 20th.

So how on God's green earth can *The State* ignore reporting to the people it purports to serve even a simple reminder and recognition of such a monumentally historical fact? That's too easy to answer,

because it is in the very character of *The State* newspaper, duh! If something historical doesn't fit with their desired worldview of things, writers, like Brad Warthen and John Monk, don't want you to know about it or will distort the facts to hopefully gain a desired public opinion or effect. As they see it, historical truths may, in fact, hinder your fragile ability to absorb all the other politically correct and liberal slanted crap they spew out daily.

To make this point clear and unquestionable, one only has to go to page 2, section A in the December 20, 2006 edition. Everyday *The State* prints some tidbits of history in a feature titled **"FLASHBACK! TODAY IN HISTORY"**. This past December 20th the feature listed only two events that apparently *The State* feels are more historically worthy than the Secession of our state and the creation of the Commonwealth of South Carolina, the Palmetto Republic. Here is what they printed:

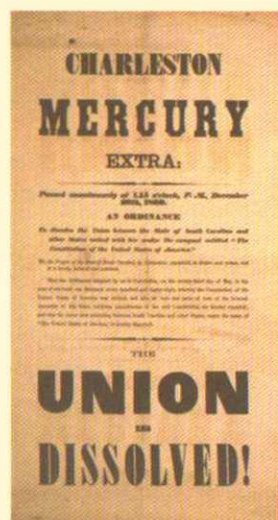
1996: A judge in Orange County, Calif., gave O.J. Simpson full custody of his young children.

1999: The Vermont Supreme Court ruled that homosexual couples were entitled to the same benefits and protections as wedded couples.

That's it, folks! Nothing else happened of any real significance on that date in the history of mankind... according to *The State*.

Now most folks truly enjoy reading daily about what kind of major events happened throughout history on a given date. It refreshes our appreciation for past hardships, tragedies and even grand successes, and reminds us of the births and deaths of important people, battles won and lost, advancements in science and technology and many more

See **Cat Litter**, on page 7



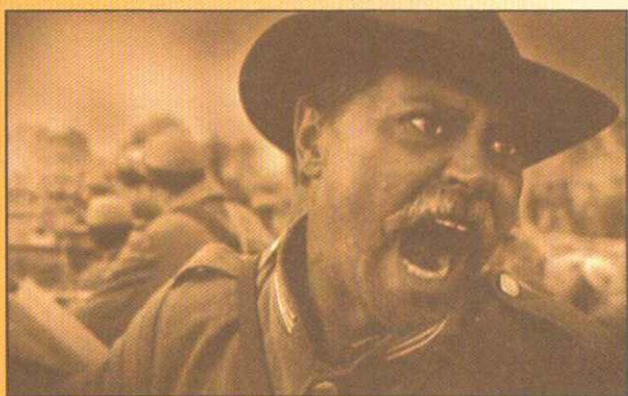
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STANDING GUARD

by Randy Burbage
SC Division Commander

South Carolina furnished 33 regiments and two battalions of infantry, seven regiments and one battalion of cavalry, one regiment and one battalion of heavy artillery, and 28 batteries of light artillery for Confederate service. More than 60,000 of South Caro-



Sharpsburg 2002, leading the 10th SC Infantry

linas' finest young men answered the call of their state and over 25,000 of those men did not return to their homes at wars end. The staggering losses suffered by our state amounted to one-fourth of her entire male population. Each of them was someone's husband, father, brother, son or nephew. Very few families in South Carolina escaped the loss of a loved one.

Pride in our state's history is an interwoven part of the mindset of all South Carolinians. It is not isolated to any particular part of our fair state. Sometimes "outsiders" accuse us of living in the past and wishing to fight "the war" all over again. We do not want to fight the war over again. As descendants of Confederate veterans we are proud to be Americans and want to honor those men who served their state in it's time of need.

The Confederate flag has been under assault by "outsiders" for decades, but each attack has caused South Carolinians to cling tighter to the symbol of those men who fought for the Confederacy and their state. The flag represents courage, honor, devotion to duty, and sacrifice. The Battle Flag at the Confederate monument on our Statehouse grounds in Columbia serves to represent those 60,000 men who served their state and the 25,000 men who gave the ultimate sacrifice for South Carolina. Displaying the flag at the Confederate monument conveys the message, "Thank you... We remember you... Your sacrifices are not forgotten." You see it is all about those men who endured so much so long ago.

The flags of many Confederate units from South Carolina are on display in the Confederate Relic Room at the state museum in Columbia. A dozen or more flags are not on display because they need to be properly preserved and stabilized. The South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, has entered into a partnership with the Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum and started a fund raising project to help conserve these flags so South Carolinians of the future will continue to remember and appreciate the sacrifices of their ancestors. Donations to preserve these flags can be sent to Division Adjutant Mark Simpson, c/o Flag Conservation Fund.

Past SC Division Commander, Senator Danny Verdin along with Senators Knotts, Vaughn, and Bryant recently proposed a bill designating May as Confederate Memorial Month in South Carolina. I urge your full support of Senate Bill S124. Please call and write to your Senators today, ask them to support Senate Bill S124. What a great opportunity for us to show we have not forgotten. We owe it to the men.

We must remain steadfast in defense of our Confederate heritage, which is under attack daily. *The Charge* given to us in 1906 by South Carolinian, Gen. Stephen D. Lee is our mission statement. "To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldier's good name...." Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson said, "Duty is ours, the consequences are God's." We must remain ready for any and all new attacks on our heritage and face them as they are mounted. It is our "Duty."

Standing Guard For Our Ancestors,

Randy B. Burbage
Randall B. Burbage
SC Division Commander

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The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

PARTISAN

Jeff O'Cain - Editor-In-Chief
Cindy Baldwin - Graphic Designer/Coordinator

The *Palmetto Partisan* is published periodically by the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as a service to our members. Nonmembers may subscribe to the newsletter for \$20.00 per annum. It will be sent free of charge to libraries and to public and private schools upon request. Send all subscriptions to:

Palmetto Partisan, Attn: Division Adjutant, 105 Winterberry Ct., Spartanburg, SC 29301.

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"Camp Classified" ads are for the exclusive use of the Division Camps. Ads are 1 column width by 3" depth in size and must be submitted 30 days in advance of the next publication date. An artwork & design fee of \$65 is required prior to press date sent to *Palmetto Partisan* address above.

Services or products advertised do not carry SCV endorsement unless otherwise specified.

Bill Introduced to Establish Confederate Memorial Month

S 0124 General Bill, By Bryant, Verdin, Vaughn and Knotts

A BILL TO AMEND ARTICLE 9, CHAPTER 1, TITLE 1 OF THE 1976 CODE, BY ADDING SECTION 1-1-616, TO DESIGNATE MAY AS CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL MONTH.

Go immediately to the Division website

www.scscv.com

for specific instructions and the address of your State Senator.

2007 South Carolina Division Convention Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina – March 16 & 17

Located in historic Mount Pleasant, just over the *Arthur Ravenel, Jr. Bridge* (named for LSCV member) from Charleston Harbor, this convention promises to be the best in recent history. This area of the low country is immersed in our history, but it is rich in modern flair. Our host, the Moultrie Camp #27, has ensured that the events planned for the convention will provide plenty of both. Do not pass up the opportunity to experience springtime in Charleston with your SCV compatriots

Friday, March 16

- **Registration and Oyster Roast, Sullivan's Island Fire Department Fish Fry Shack - 6pm:** Springtime on Sullivan's island, beside Fort Moultrie, provides the ultimate setting for meeting compatriots. Also, don't miss the opportunity to enjoy some local oysters.

Saturday, March 17

- **Memorial Service, Carr Street Cemetery - 8am:** A Confederate cemetery in the heart of the historic village of Mount Pleasant is ideal for a reverent service to remember the men who sacrificed so much.
- **2007 Division Convention, Alhambra Hall - 9:30am:** The important business of our beloved organization will be reinforced by spectacular views of Charleston Harbor and Fort Sumter off the veranda of this former ferry terminal.
- **Barbeque at the Hunley Lab, Warren Lasch Conservation Center - 6pm:** Enjoy award-winning barbeque and a private tour of the Hunley Labs after the convention and support the conservation efforts of the Hunley Commission.



Important dates:

- February 1: Palmetto Package Deadline – an affordable way to enjoy all of the events. Ancestor Memorials Deadline
- February 15: Pre-Registration Deadline
- February 16: Deadline for discounted rate at the host hotel: \$124 + tax at the Holiday Inn Patriots Point (843) 884-6000

Contact: convention@scv27.org
or
Moultrie Camp #27, PO Box 1484, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465

South Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans

Policy on Hate Groups



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is not a hate group. The South Carolina Division SCV does not knowingly allow anyone with ties to hate groups join and has removed, and will remove, anyone from its ranks who expresses racist sentiments. Specifically, the following is not allowed and will be grounds for immediate dismissal:

- Attempting to recruit fellow SCV members for racist organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan, American Nazi Party or National Alliance.
- Membership in any racist organization such as the Ku Klux Klan, American Nazi Party or National Alliance.
- Disseminating racist literature to fellow SCV members by mail or in person.
- Membership in any organization promoting a violent overthrow of the United States government.

**ALL MEMBERS MUST BE AWARE OF THESE RESTRICTIONS,
AS THEY WILL BE RIGOROUSLY ENFORCED.**

Loving the South and defending its culture, symbols and heritage **DOES NOT MEAN HATE**. In fact, many SCV members are descendants of African-American, Catholic, Jewish, Native American and Asian Confederates. These groups' contributions to Southern culture have made the South a beautiful and unique region. To deny their descendants membership in our organization would betray our principles and the very ancestors we honor. We welcome all descendants of Confederate Soldiers, Sailors and Marines or those who materially aided the South in its struggle for independence.

WHERE WE STAND

by Mark Simpson
SC Division Adjutant

Gentlemen of the South Carolina Division,
Here we are, just over half way through another fiscal period, and I am pleased to report that the South Carolina Division is in good health.

We are 69 Camps strong with a membership just over 3,000 and as a Division we are financially secure and ready for the battles that lie ahead.

The Division implemented the Membership Renewal System (MRS) in July 2006 to provide assistance to the arduous job of the Camp Adjutant improving the retention, renewal, and replenishment of funds needed to maintain and run our organization. The MRS does in no way replace the Camp Adjutant's post but rather lends an extra boost and air of professionalism for future growth of our Division. Please take the opportunity at your next Camp meeting to thank your Adjutant for the hard work and many hours he spends on the job.

From time to time I have heard our members ask, "What do I get in return for my dues?" In addition to the MRS, the Division maintains a very nice web site, www.scscev.com, with downloadable files, links and a new Events Calendar to post future Camp and Division activities. Please take every opportunity to visit it frequently and send your upcoming events to the Chief of Staff or the Division Adjutant.

The newly designed *Palmetto Partisan*, formerly a newsletter and now *The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division*, has also made a tremendous impact on our membership as well as over a thousand non-members who receive a complimentary issue. Among those are all State legislators, the SC Congressional delegation, all County Sheriffs, all County Council members in every county, State Board of Education, 600 of the top business leaders in the state, all college and university

presidents, media and newspaper writers and chapters of the NAACP.

As we approach the sesquicentennial of the WBTS, your Division is out front taking a positive and proactive approach to educating the public. Defending the heritage we all cherish doesn't mean we have to wait for the enemy to strike; an offensive weapon (i.e. our *Palmetto Partisan*) strategically planned and placed is intended to work as effective preemptive weapon as we engage our critics and detractors. In the business world we call it "preventive maintenance." These are some of the many improvements you receive for \$10.00 a year; you be the judge.

I want to personally thank Commander Jeff O'Cain for his creative and professional style that has revitalized and refreshed the look, appearance and content of the *Palmetto Partisan* and Commander Burbage for his insight and vision in aggressively promoting our future with the introduction of the Membership Renewal System. These are a few of the great strides we have taken that should make us all proud to be members of the South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Finally, I wish to openly and specifically thank Commander Burbage for the privilege of serving the Division. There is no finer leadership in the SCV, in any Division.

For the future of our Southland,
Mark A Simpson
Division Adjutant



MUSTER

by Gene Hogan
SC Division Lt. Commander

The Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee of the NCAA has arrived at the conclusion they were without the moral authority to ask for expansion of the postseason events ban on South Carolina and Mississippi. Their pious reasoning, while the primary ban remains, only puts the hypocrisy of the NCAA on display for all to see.

Many of you know that I have been deeply involved in this issue for several months. During my research, I discovered a surprising fact – the NCAA marked their centennial in 2006. I was struck by the fact that the NCAA was established the same year that Gen. Stephen D. Lee gave THE CHARGE to the SCV, establishing our "mission statement", which we still strive to fulfill.

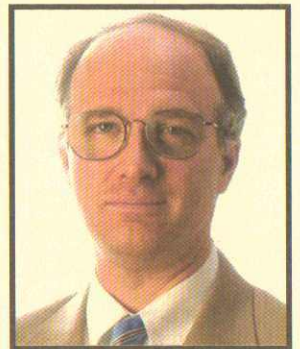
Consider the reasons for the development of the NCAA – insure the safety of college football players. More to the point, several states were considering a ban on the sport. Because of several deaths and serious injuries, their rationale was that the sport was just too dangerous. President Teddy Roosevelt called in the presidents of Harvard, Yale and Princeton to warn them of a Federal ban unless they could get the game under control with some standardization of rules. Thus, the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States, the predecessor of the NCAA was born.

It was unacceptable that a sport, improperly supervised, should kill and severely injure young men. For that reason, we can praise the early work of the NCAA. However, it is also unacceptable that the crippling virus of political correctness should mutate unchecked throughout the environment of college sports.

Today, one hundred years later, there are no state legislatures with bans on the game of football. Yet, there are two states that remain under a ban on certain NCAA-sanctioned events because of the work of a representative legislature in South Carolina and the application of pure democracy in a referendum in Mississippi. How could two staples of Western referendum have become so noxious to an organization founded in the most freedom loving country in the world?

The SCV, by contrast, has not strayed from its foundations. Furthermore, the SCV has won national attention by standing against the NCAA and its tyrannical policies. Make no mistake, our initiative called OPERATION FOURTH & GOAL is not about bowl games and tournaments. If, God forbid, all Confederate flags could be burned up, all monuments ground into powder and all names of Confederate heroes erased from sight, the NCAA would still be engaged in the process of a misguided, liberal reengineering of society in the South and elsewhere, as well.

Hopefully, by now, Myles Brand and the other NCAA elitists are considering their "exit strategy" after running into the resistance that you gave them. Rest up, though, gray team, its only halftime...



Confederate
Heritage
Always
Requires
Great
Effort

Yours in service,
Gene Hogan
Lt. Commander

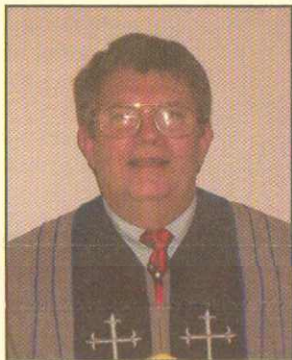
THE FIELD PULPIT

Ed Westbury, Division Chaplain

As I write this, I have just returned from the 100th Year Rededication of the Gen. Wade Hampton Statue on the grounds of our South Carolina Capitol. Much was said of this great South Carolina statesman, military hero, and family man. Wade Hampton was all of this and more. He was a true Christian Gentleman.

We can see his faith in God in many ways. You can see his faith in many of the letters he wrote to his family during the war. In a letter he wrote home on Christmas Day, 1861, he says, "Since I left home, six months ago, the hand of our Father in Heaven has protected me from many and great dangers. He has kept me from falling, in battle when so many fell, and in the midst of great sickness, He has granted to me strength and health. I strive to be thankful for these unmerited mercies and I pray to be made worthy of thee."

Another letter written on Christmas Day, 1862, continues this theme of the God in his life. He writes, "I was not touched, and I am again called on to thank God for his mercy in sparing me. I have been in forty-three fights, and yet the hand of God has saved me in all of them. The prayers of those who love me must have been my shield. I hope the same hand will guide and guard me still."



Upon his first address, as Governor, to the South Carolina General Assembly, Hampton once again demonstrated his faith in the Lord. He told the representatives, "No human wisdom could have brought us safely through the danger that beset us on all sides, and we should reverently give thanks to Him who alone wrought this great deliverance."

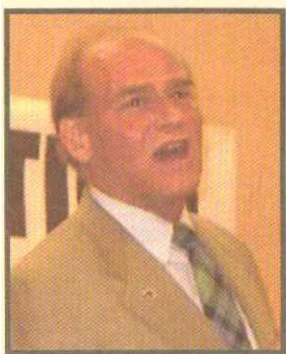
As he lay on his death bed, his final thoughts were for God to be with others. His final words are a true light into the relationship this great man had with his Lord. He said, "All my people, black and white-God bless them all."

Throughout all of his life, Wade Hampton loved his Lord and Savior. He constantly thanked God for his health, his safety, his strength, his family, and all of the mercies of God. It was his Lord who strengthened him in battle, in the loss of loved ones, in the loss of his wealth, and in every day he breathed.

We have been blessed with the example of Wade Hampton. But, unless we turn over our lives to the same God that he loved, this blessing will be wasted on us. God wants us to bow humbly before him, as did General Hampton. We need to call upon the name of the Lord in times of joy, in times of trouble, in times of sorrow, and in times of rejoicing. Jesus was with Wade Hampton and he will be with you. Call upon the name of the Lord.

HERITAGE DEFENSE REPORT

by Don Gordon
Chairman, Heritage Defense Committee



Compatriots, today in the South we have the National Collegiate Athletic Association trying to act as the "Thought Police" for the States of South Carolina and Mississippi, but there are multiple "flags on the play" and the NCAA is guilty of offensive interference, off-sides, flagrant personal foul and unsportsmanlike conduct. For this they should be ejected from the game and by demonstrating such inappropriate and irresponsible behavior, perhaps forfeit their opportunities to guide colligate athletics nationally.

If they would check their civics books they would see that when the SC House of Representatives and the SC Senate pass a bill and the Governor signs it into law, we don't need to check with the NCAA to see how we should honor over 25,000 brave soldiers who died defending the State of South Carolina.

You can now go to a special web-site that we have set up, NCAainterference.org, and sign our petition telling the NCAA to stick to things that have something to do with college athletics.

Compatriots, we are on the march and the public is on our side. They can see that no one else has stepped forward to make SC's case to the NCAA. Where is our Governor on this matter? Where is the Legislature? And having been so economically distraught about the flag on the dome, where now is the SC Chamber of Commerce?

When someone is trying to harm SC, especially economically, it's their duty to see that our interests are protected. Where is the U.S. Attorney for SC whose job it is to see that no Federal Laws are violated, like the Interstate Commerce Laws which make it a crime to "impede interstate commerce", or the conduct an illegal secondary boycott? Colleges and Universities don't make law and can do absolutely nothing about where the flag flies, or if it flies at all, neither does the Bi-Lo Center which has been specifically injured financially in not being allowed to hold ACC or NCAA basketball playoffs.

America is in a time of great crisis, and the champions who should be standing up for us have their heads buried in the sands of political correctness. It is refreshing to the public to see someone fighting for their rights who will not sell out their liberties for a dollar or a vote.

Once again it is the Sons of Confederate Veterans who are trying to see that the proper mechanisms of Government are used to secure an end to this meddling in the laws of SC. For you see, this debate is not about whether the Confederate Flag should be on the Capitol grounds, but, rather, we are talking about which body of citizens should make that decision. We should note that the NCAA is made up of people who are, for the most part, not even citizens of the State of South Carolina.

It should also be noted that 100% of our State's Black Senators voted to put the Confederate Flag where it flies today and that WIS TV did a poll that indicated that 60% of the Black citizens of SC were in favor of flying the Confederate Flag in its current location.

We will win this fight because, once again, the Constitution and public opinion are on our side, and at the end of the day all of the NCAA members will fly back home to their respective states,



and we will all be right here in South Carolina for generations to come.

We can all be proud of the SCV. Our rights are secure only because men like us are willing to fight to keep them. And we are honored for those who, although not even being members of the SCV, stand with us. May God bless America and, so to, save the South!

Sic Semper Tyrannis,
Don Gordon
Committee Chairman

Heritage Education Columbia's Longest Days

...Occupied, Sacked and Destroyed



By Tom Elmore, Palmetto Camp #22

On February 17, 1865 the city of Columbia was sacked and destroyed by the army of William T. Sherman.

Though Sherman had planned to capture Columbia all along, (Because of its railroads and industrial base Sherman said in 1865, "Richmond is not more vital to [Jefferson Davis] cause than Columbia and the Heart of South Carolina.") he confused Confederate officials by pretending to march on Charleston or Augusta. Partly because of this, local and Confederate leaders seemed oblivious to Columbia's potential danger and made no preparations for the city's defense until December 1864.

Sherman entered South Carolina on January 31 and in 2 1/2 weeks was on the outskirts of Columbia with only around 5000 cavalymen under the command of generals Wade Hampton III, Matthew C. Butler, and Joseph Wheeler to oppose him. At Congaree Creek, below Cayce, a couple thousand dismounted Confederate cavalymen engaged a division of the XVth Corps and were quickly flanked. This was the only opposition to Sherman in the Columbia area.

Back in Columbia, plans were made for the Confederate army's evacuation and the city's surrender. Orders were issued by Hampton that under no circumstances was any cotton in the city to be destroyed. At about 10 am on the seventeenth, the last Confederate troops left Columbia.

Meanwhile Sherman continued moving his army along the Congaree River. Union artillerymen shelled the city done from the West Columbia side of the Gervais Street Bridge. The scars of the bombardment are still on the walls of the State House.

Sherman decided that the XVth Corps commanded by Maj. Gen. James "Black Jack" Logan would occupy the city. It was a fateful decision. The XVth Corps had a notorious reputation for looting and foraging across the countryside, and in terms of discipline, it was probably Sherman's worse corps. Logan would lead his men in song, singing:

Hail Columbia, happy land. If I don't burn you, I'll be damned!

On the morning of February 17, Brig. Gen. George A. Stone led the 31st Iowa Regiment into the city. Around 11 am in front of the present day Burning Bush Missionary Church on River Drive, Mayor Thomas J. Goodwyn unconditionally surrendered the city. Stone's men marched into town, going down Main Street, stacking their arms on the corner of Main and Washington Streets.

As the soldiers entered the city, people handed them the many bottles of liquor stored in the city, making the soldiers increasingly drunk. Sherman took notice of this when he entered the city telling his second in command, Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard that he better be careful.

Sherman spent the day in Columbia visiting with some old friends and giving the mayor reassurances that the city was safe. However shortly after dark, three rockets were fired into the air. Soon afterwards, fires started springing up all over the city, fanned by gale force winds and drunken soldiers. The blaze lasted until around three or four am, when the wind shifted.

During the inferno, citizens of Columbia were subjugated to some of the worse inhumanities a conquering army has inflicted upon its captors in the history of modern warfare. Space does not permit a detail account of the barbarity that occurred that night, but any kind of cruelty that one can imagine occurred during that fateful evening. Howard would arrest 3,500 soldiers in conjunction with the fire, which also killed hundreds of drunken soldiers.

It has been estimated that at least one third of the town was destroyed, though some contemporary accounts suggest a higher figure. On Main Street only one small cottage remained. William Gilmore Simms listed 468 buildings as being destroyed including 265 dwellings. Col. James G. Gibbes wrote that property damage was estimated to be about 30 million dollars.

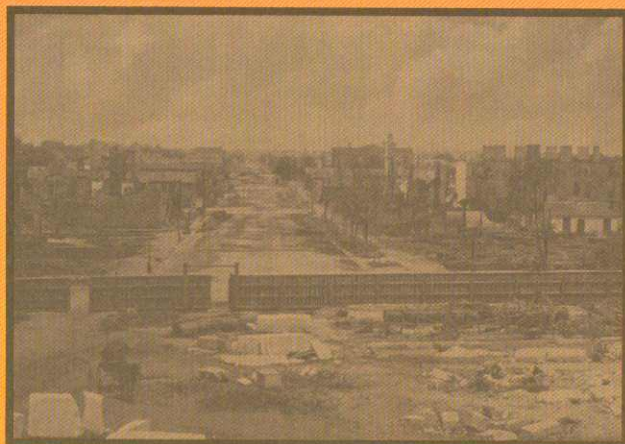
A week later, outside of Winnsboro an inspection of the XVth Corps wagons turned up five tons of stolen private property, including a gold cross taken from a church.

Emma LeConte took a walk around the city on February 21. To her the city was now an "Abomination of Desolation." "It is even worse than I thought," she wrote, "The place is literally in ruins. The entire heart of the city is in ashes," adding that the air in the city was "frought with sadness and silence."

Over the course of time, Sherman would change his story as to what caused the burning of Columbia. During the fire, itself, a number of civilians, including a minister, heard Sherman blame it on the alcohol his soldiers had been drinking. When he left Columbia, and in his official report, he blamed the fire on Wade Hampton for ordering the cotton set on fire, which Sherman later acknowledged as a lie in his *Memoirs*. However, when Sherman met U.S. Commander in Chief, Gen. U.S. Grant in March 1865, he overheard telling Grant, "Columbia! —Pretty much all burned; and burned good!" Later, in front of an international tribunal investigating the fire, Sherman dismissed it as an "accident of war."

Sherman left the ruined city on February 20, accompanied by about 200-400 civilian refugees. To help the burned out families, Sherman gave city leaders three hundred heads of stringy cattle, a cigar box full of medicine and a bottle of castor oil.

Besides Columbia, Bamberg, Barnwell, Blackville, Camden, Cheraw, Chesterfield, Estill, Gillisonville, Grahamville, Hardeeville, Lancaster, Lawtonville, Lexington, Liberty Hill, McPhersonville, Midway, Orangeburg, Pocotagilo, Purrysburgh, Robertsville, Springfield, and Winnsboro felt the wrath of Sherman's army and were destroyed either in part or in whole. Wrote J.P. Carroll in 1867, "The line of General Sherman's march, from his entering the territory of the State up to Columbia, and from Columbia to the North Carolina border, was one continuous track of fire."



Profile In Leadership

State Treasurer Thomas Ravenel

Fort Sumter Camp #1269

Charleston



Having narrowly missed the chance to meet former one-term Governor David Beasley in his 2004 run for the US Senate, Thomas Jonathan Jackson Ravenel was elected State Treasurer of South Carolina in November 2006. In that '04 US Senate race Jim DeMint bested Thomas by one thin percentage point. DeMint went on to oppose Beasley winning the Republican primary in a landslide with major help from Thomas and subsequently was elected to the US Senate.

Thomas was born in Charleston, the youngest of six children, and educated in Charleston public schools, serving as captain of his football and wrestling teams in high school. In 1981, he was accepted to the Corps of Cadets at The Citadel, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1985. In 1991, he earned a Masters in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina, emphasizing Finance and Real Estate.

Following in the footsteps of his famous father, the former US Congressman and State Senator Arthur Ravenel, Thomas is a staunch defender of his Southern heritage. Having been named after Confederate icon Stonewall Jackson, it's not difficult to understand his position on all things Southern. It's in his blood. As a member of the Ft. Sumter Camp, Thomas is a beacon of hope for the future leadership of South Carolina, especially supporting the honorable and just protection of our Confederate heritage.

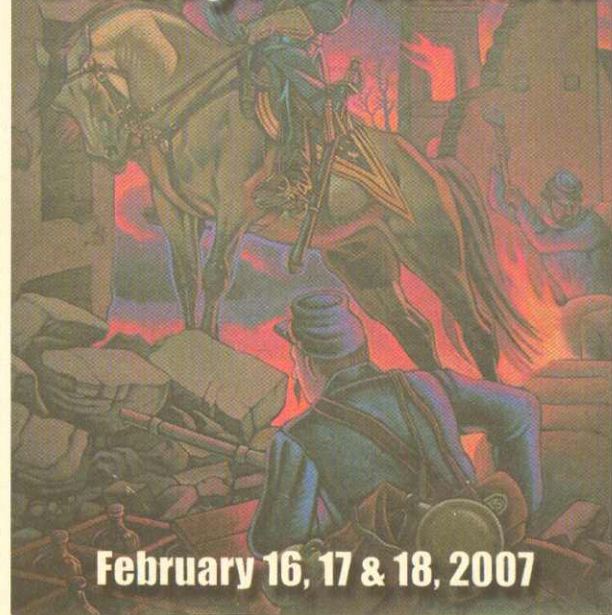
Speaking recently at the Wade Hampton Camp's Lee-Jackson Banquet, Thomas amused the large gathering saying, "When I was a small boy my daddy would always introduce me to his colleagues instructing me to tell them my name. I would step up and proudly exclaim, 'My name is Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson Ravenel'. It never failed to get a big hooray."

In 1992, Thomas founded Ravenel Development Corporation. As an owner/developer, he has completed 65 successful retail projects in ten states.

Forty-two years old and single, Thomas is active in national and state organizations that promote pro-growth economic policies such as The Club for Growth and the Free Enterprise Fund. He is a member of the French Huguenot Church of Charleston. In his free time, he enjoys tennis, boating and traveling.

South Carolina is very fortunate to have a man of Thomas Ravenel's stature and character to lead as its treasurer. The SCV is proud to count him as one our own, and we look to him for a bright future of leadership for the Palmetto State.

Battle for Columbia



February 16, 17 & 18, 2007

In association with the
Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance

Friday

Living History & Education Day at Sandy Run
Military Ball & Grand Bazaar at State Museum, 8pm

Saturday

Reenactment of Federals firing on the Capitol, 8:45am
Mayor Coble reenacts surrender of Columbia, 10am
Sherman's March Bus Tours, 9:30am & 2:30pm
Relic Show & Symposium at State Museum, 10am
Battle for Columbia in Sandy Run, 3pm

Sunday

Period Church Service in Sandy Run, 11am
Battle for Columbia in Sandy Run, 2pm

Adults \$10, Students \$5, under 6 FREE

FOR ALL THE EXCITING DETAILS GO TO
www.battleforcolumbia.com
or
www.shermansmarch.com

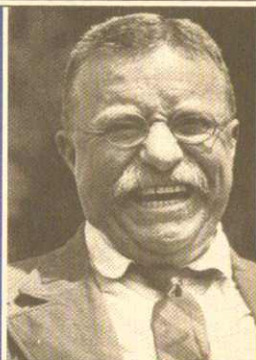
If there had been no *2nd Amendment* in 1861, the South could not have raised an army to defend itself against the invading Northern forces.

JOIN THE

NRA

*"Those Who Will Not
Fight For The Graves
Of Their Ancestors Are
Beyond Redemption".*

U.S. President
Theodore Roosevelt



The Sons of Confederate Veterans Cadet #1

My name is Chandler Givens. I am the great-great-great-grandson of Private Peter Harrison Givens of the 1st Tennessee Cavalry. I am very fortunate to be the first Cadet of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. I am very, very happy to be a part of this organization of men who protect the South against the lies of the north.

On December 4th, 2006 I was sworn in as a member of the General Richard H. Anderson Camp # 47 of Beaufort, South Carolina, by my Dad, ANV Commander, Michael Givens. It was very exciting.

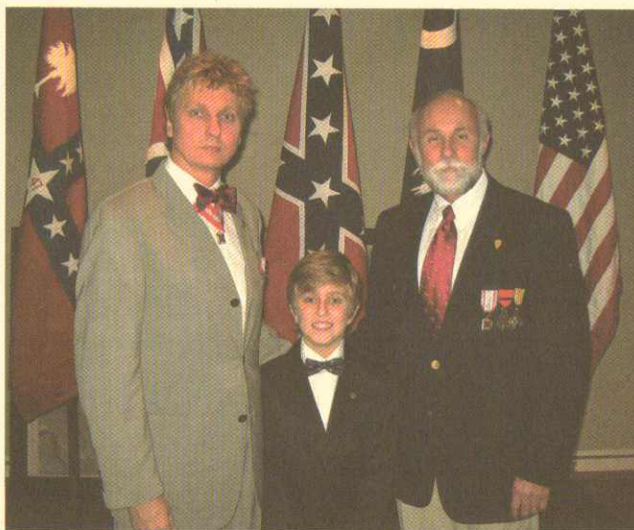
My Dad worked with other SCV members for twelve years to allow boys to join the SCV. Finally at the New Orleans convention, they were successful. Nearly everyone agreed to make a special membership for boys called the Cadet Program. This would allow boys from birth to twelve years old to be members. As Cadets we are not allowed to vote or be officers and we don't get the *Confederate Veteran* magazine, but we are part of the SCV and can join as full members as soon as we are twelve. (I turn twelve in May and I will join as a full member then.)

I was in New Orleans this year, and I will never forget how happy I was when I was told that I could finally join. As soon as the rule was made and passed, my father filled out the form and turned it in with ten dollars. It was the first form turned in and that is how I got to be the first Cadet.

In New Orleans, I was very happy to be a Cadet but it all became so real when I had to stand in front of MY Camp while my Dad swore me in. I was excited and nervous at the same time. As far back as I can remember, I have known about the SCV and have been taught the true history of the South. I have been to a lot of conventions, memorial events, balls and parades. I have even been to quite a few SCV meetings, but now I will go to all of these things as a member. And for this, I am very proud. I want to thank all of you that made this possible, especially my Dad.

H. Chandler Givens
Cadet (#1)

General Richard H. Anderson Camp # 47
Sons of Confederate Veterans



ANV Commander and proud father, Michael Givens, SCV Cadet #1 Chandler Givens, Gen. Richard H. Anderson Camp Commander Jody Henson.

A proud father's note:

On the night of December the fourth, 2006, I was indeed the proudest father in America, when I swore my son into the Sons of Confederate Veterans. After the ceremony and while the room was filled with standing applause, my son got my attention and asked if he might have the opportunity to say a few words. I had no idea he was going to ask this, but happily gave him the floor. He only took a moment, but in that moment, my heart was filled with joy as Chandler stood at the podium and sincerely thanked the men of Camp 47 for his opportunity to be a part of the SCV and that Camp. He only spoke for a minute but it was a minute I will never forget.

I know that many of you are fathers and grandfathers. Others are brothers, uncles and cousins of young men. I implore you to put your young men in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Let us raise our sons as lovers of their home and guardians of their own history and heritage. The cost is nominal at ten dollars a year, but the return is incalculable. Simply fill out a membership application and write "CADET" at the top. Your Cadet will receive a membership certificate and a special SCV Cadet membership pin and be on his way to becoming part of next wave of defense for the Southern Cause. Do this today and prepare for the future.

Michael Givens
Commander
Army of Northern Virginia

Marse Robert Welcomes President Ford



AUGUST 5TH, 1975 — *Remarks Upon Signing a Bill Restoring Rights of Citizenship to General Robert E. Lee.*

"Governor Godwin, Senator Byrd, Congressman Butler, Congressman Harris, Congressman Satterfield, Congressman Downing, and Congressman Daniel, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I am very pleased to sign Senate Joint Resolution 23, restoring posthumously the long overdue, full rights of citizenship to General Robert E. Lee. This legislation corrects a 110-year oversight of American history. It is significant that it is signed at this place.

Lee's dedication to his native State of Virginia chartered his course for the bitter Civil War years, causing him to reluctantly resign from a distinguished career in the United States Army and to serve as General of the Army of Northern Virginia. He, thus, forfeited his rights to U.S. citizenship.

Once the war was over, he firmly felt the wounds of the North and South must be bound up. He sought to show by example that the citizens of the South must dedicate their efforts to rebuilding that region 'of the country as a strong and vital part of the American Union.

In 1865, Robert E. Lee wrote to a former Confederate soldier concerning his signing the Oath of Allegiance, and I quote: "This war, being at an end, the Southern States having laid down their arms, and the questions at issue between them and the Northern States having been decided, I believe it to be the duty of everyone to unite in the restoration of the country and the reestablishment of peace and harmony."

This resolution passed by the Congress responds to the formal application of General Lee to President Andrew Johnson on June 13, 1865, for the restoration of his full rights of citizenship. Although this petition was endorsed by General Grant and forwarded to the President through the Secretary of War, an Oath of Allegiance was not attached because notice of this additional requirement had not reached Lee in time.

Later, after his inauguration as President of Washington College on October 2, 1865, Lee executed a notarized Oath

of Allegiance. Again his application was not acted upon because the Oath of Allegiance was apparently lost. It was finally discovered in the National Archives in 1970.

As a soldier, General Lee left his mark on military strategy. As a man, he stood as the symbol of valor and of duty. As an educator, he appealed to reason and learning to achieve understanding and to build a stronger nation. The course he chose after the war became a symbol to all those who had marched with him in the bitter years towards Appomattox.

General Lee's character has been an example to succeeding generations, making the

restoration of his citizenship an event in which every American can take pride.

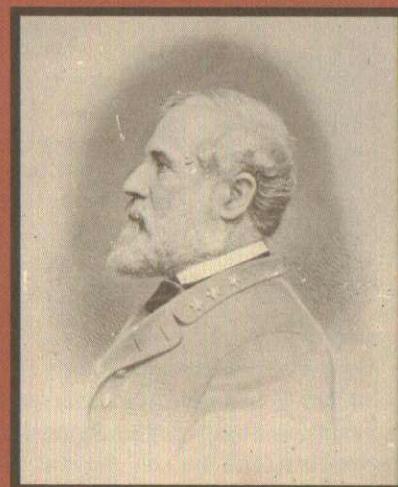
In approving this Joint Resolution, the Congress removed the legal obstacle to citizenship which resulted from General Lee's Civil War service. Although more than a century late, I am delighted to sign this resolution and to complete the full restoration of General Lee's citizenship."

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The President spoke and signed the resolution into law that day at 2:12 p.m. at Arlington House, Arlington, Va. Arlington House, formerly known as the Custis-Lee Mansion, was the home of General Lee.*

President Ford was from Michigan and died this past December. The SCV would be wise to act and posthumously thank President Ford for correcting a 110-year old blunder. We would imagine that upon the 38th President's arrival in heaven after "crossing the river", Marse Robert was one of the very first to greet and warmly welcome him to heaven. We imagine they sat and chatted in the shade of

SC Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum

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the trees joined by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, President Davis, Generals Jackson, Stuart, Forrest, Longstreet, Hampton and all great Americans of the steadfast character, unwavering faith and the highest integrity which both Ford and Lee so openly exemplified.

God's speed, President Ford! Please give our best to General Lee.

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World War II Vets Feel SCV Pain

Hmmm...and you thought we were all alone!

We suppose it was inevitable, but how sad it seems that the brave men who fought for liberty and literally saved the entire world from German, Japanese and Italian tyrannical fascists a mere 65 years ago are now fighting again. But this time it's to vindicate their cause and to preserve their own honor, good name and true history. WOW! How can that be, you ask?



Unbelievable as it may seem, some of the same individuals and forces that the SCV has long battled for decades are now maligning and denigrating the veterans of World War II, trashing their history and rewriting the events of that righteous and just conflict. Former NBC news anchor, Tom Brokaw, called them "The Greatest Generation", yet, amazingly, there are actually Americans amongst us who seriously don't think so. Just take a look at this:

Excerpts from a recent 65th anniversary fundraising appeal by the World War II Veterans Committee:

"Will you help me preserve the legacy of World War II veterans like me before politically correct revisionists rewrite history?"

"...the lessons of Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Omaha Beach and Saipan should be taught to our youngsters. And many of our schools are spending very little time teaching our youngsters about the sacrifices our WW II vets made."

"...one university recently refused to memorialize one of their brightest alumni, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient "Pappy" Boyington, leader of the famed Black Sheep Squadron. Why? All because a student leader said fighting in WW II was equivalent to murder."

"Sadly, some in the Clinton Administration did their best to downplay WW II history. They discouraged the use of the term 'V-J Day'. They cancelled the postage stamp commemorating the bombing of Hiroshima...."

"Some of the curators at the Smithsonian tried to rewrite WW II history to cast the U.S. as the aggressor, not Japan."

"In fact, although President Franklin Roosevelt called Pearl Harbor a 'day that will

live in infamy', surveys of Ivy League students show that hardly any of them can even name the year, much less the day."

The appeal was signed:
**Lt. Henry Rapalus, USN
Seaman Second Class, USS Hull
Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941**

Another highly respected organization of WWII vets is similarly enraged: the *Admiral Nimitz Foundation*. These veterans focus more specifically on the war in the Pacific. They are working to build a new addition to the National Museum of the Pacific War. Doesn't matter though, because they're being maligned just the same by the many liberal factions who also oppose the SCV. Here's more to ponder:

Excerpts from the Admiral Nimitz Foundation's 2006 fundraising appeal:



"...too few young Americans these days have ever learned of the sacrifices made for their freedom in such places like Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Bataan, China-Burma-India, Guadalcanal, Wake, Midway, Pearl Harbor and



many others. Sadly, your own child or grandchild is likely one of them."

"Too few know about Jimmy Doolittle's daring air raid on Tokyo...."

"Fewer still are aware of General Douglas MacArthur fulfilling his promise with a dramatic return to the Philippines or know why the Enola Gay B-25 dropped the atomic bomb."

"Worse, many young people are now being told that the United States is to blame for dropping that atomic bomb and our nation should be ashamed...."

So perhaps the SCV is not as alone as we may think in the arena of political correctness and historical revisionism gone berserk. Perhaps we will soon see emerge an **SWWIIV, Sons of World War II Veterans**, fighting to protect the honor, good name and true history of the men who fought to preserve liberty only 65 years ago. Think about it! We sure could give them some valuable pointers.

U.S. Senators Against English!

Recently 38 United States Senators voted **AGAINST** making **ENGLISH** the official language of the United States of America. And here they are for you to consider, "What were they thinking?" Bet you can't find a Southerner, whether Republican OR Democrat, among 'um.

**Akaka (D-HI)
Bayh (D-IN)
Biden (D-DE)
Bingaman (D-NM)
Boxer (D-CA)
Cantwell (D-WA)
Clinton (D-NY)
Dayton (D-MN)
Dodd (D-CT)
Domenici (R-NM)
Durbin (D-IL)**

**Feingold (D-WI)
Feinstein (D-CA)
Harkin (D-IA)
Inouye (D-HI)
Jeffords (I-VT)
Kennedy (D-MA)
Kerry (D-MA)
Kohl (D-WI)
Lautenberg (D-NJ)
Leahy (D-VT)
Levin (D-MI)**

**Lieberman (D-CT)
Menendez (D-NJ)
Mikulski (D-MD)
Murray (D-WA)
Obama (D-IL)
Reed (D-RI)
Reid (D-NV)
Salazar (D-CO)
Sarbanes (D-MD)
Schumer (D-NY)**

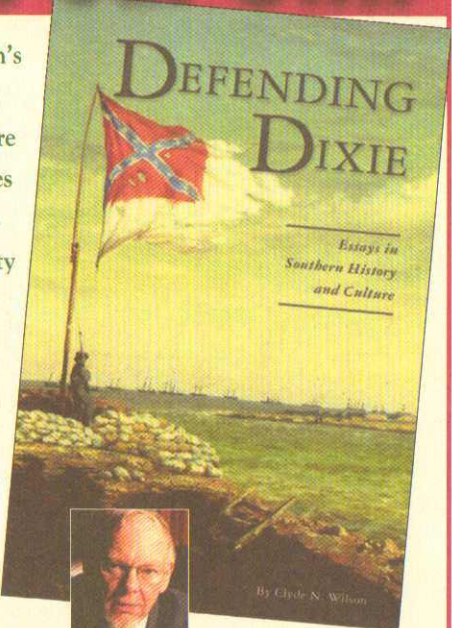
**Stabenow (D-MI)
Wyden (D-OR)**



What a real fine lot of Americans these folks are! Not sure we can stomach Spanish with a Charleston accent. But to us Southerners, English or Spanish with a New York, Boston or Chicago accent all pretty much sound the same. Apparently it's no big deal up North. But it sho-nuf ain't ever gonna happen down here! Just can't imagine Aunt Pitty Pat exclaiming, "ay Dios mi'o, los Yanquis esta'n en Tara... como quiera que llaron alli!" And, of course, we all know that means "Lordy, Lordy, Yankees in Tara...how ever did they get here?" Of course we knew! Duh?

One of Our Own

SCV member Clyde Wilson's admiring view of the South presented in this book is rare at the present day. He writes from a belief that Dixie is a living and long-lasting reality that continues to offer a valuable alternative vision to Americans of the 21st century. More importantly, as he says of the South, "there are plenty of good people who love her still."



Clyde Wilson

"Clyde Wilson is the last pterodactyl, soaring close to the sun, casting a long, cold shadow over the politically correct landscape. This volume provides Wilson's growing readership with more of his observations on an astonishing variety of subjects. All of these concerns are worried over by a mind as precise and expansive as an encyclopedia.... Be forewarned. If you hate the South and don't like to hear good things about the region, you might want to skip this book and pick up a copy of anything Southern that's favorably reviewed by the *New York Times*. As measured and objective as his arguments may be, Clyde Wilson is always the good Southerner. More to the point, he is totally, unequivocally without shame."

—from the introduction by Thomas H. Landess

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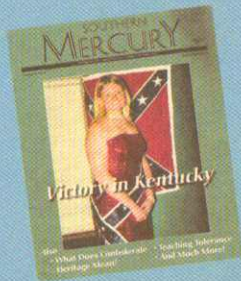
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What Does Confederate Heritage Mean?
The Problem with Teaching Tolerance

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Uncle Seth Fought the Yankees
Hey, Wait a Minute!
Book Review - Birth of the Republic

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Yankee Heritage Under Attack!

HR5289 is a bill in the House of Representatives submitted by Southern Congressman Timothy Johnson [R-LA] to stop the NCAA interference into collegiate symbols and mascots. Oddly, 9 Yankees of the Illinois Congressional Delegation have also signed on as co-sponsors.

It would appear that yanks don't like the NCAA messing around with their local heritage either. Does *Fighting Illini* sound familiar? The Illinois tribe of Indians, oops, we mean Native-Americans, must certainly be totally outraged and offended...according to the NCAA.

Here are the other co-sponsors of HR5289:

- Rep. Rodney Alexander [R-LA]

Rep. Judy Biggert [R-IL]

Rep. Allen Boyd [D-FL]

Rep. Jerry Costello [D-IL]

Rep. Jo Ann Davis [R-VA]

Rep. Dennis Hastert [R-IL]

Rep. Henry Hyde [R-IL]
- Rep. Mark Kirk [R-IL]

Rep. Ray LaHood [R-IL]

Rep. Daniel Lipinski [D-IL]

Rep. Donald Manzullo [R-IL]

Rep. John Shimkus [R-IL]

Rep. Dan Boren [D-OK]

For more information on HR5289 go to www.NCAAinterference.org.

NCAA, cont. from page 1

the most polite and friendly in the country. But because we dare to honor our heritage and history by flying a piece of cloth on our State House Grounds, we make the likes of the Black Coaches Association "uncomfortable."

First off, any athlete or coach that is uncomfortable with a flag flying in a distant location is a bit of pantywaist and probably shouldn't be playing or coaching collegiate athletics in the first place. What's next, a ban on booing?

No, the whole idea that coaches and players are offended by South Carolina's flying the flag on the Statehouse grounds is a charade. It's a ruse orchestrated by the NCAA to take the spotlight off more pressing issues, such as the fact that less than half of Division I men's basketball players graduate, for example.

Just as important, it makes the NCAA look like a "progressive" organization, one that is willing to stand up for the "oppressed," even if the cause isn't legitimate.

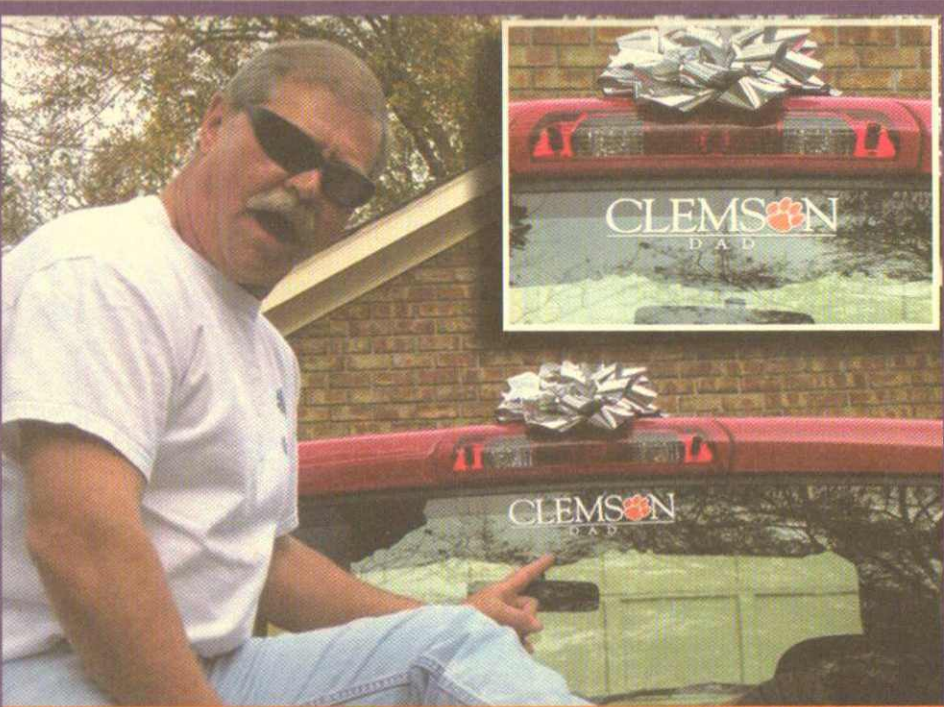
In this, the NCAA is much like the liberal media, who have been second to none in their attack on the flag and all things Confederate. Both groups fell all over themselves trying to

get on the equality bandwagon once the hard work of the Civil Rights' movement was competed.

It would be much easier to see the NCAA in anything but a hypocritical light if the organization had been just a little more willing to stand up for the integration of major college sports teams across the nation when it was still a hot button issue.

What's really interesting is that both the media and the NCAA have merely traded one form of intolerance for another. Fifty years ago, neither the NCAA nor many mainstream newspapers were willing to take a stand against Jim Crow or the institutionalized racism that stood in the way of full equality.

Today, again keeping with popular sentiment expressed by political, education and business leaders, they make a big show of "taking a stand" on behalf of minorities. But besides appearing extremely condescending to minorities, all the NCAA and liberal media have really done is replaced a bigotry against minorities with a bigotry against Southern heritage. Either way, it's wrong.



Commander Burbage is a NEW Dad!

Much to this big time Gamecock fan's dismay, Division Commander Randy Burbage's daughter, Hannah (*Palmetto Partisan* 11/07, p. 8), is now attending, of all schools, Clemson University. We all know that Randy is a man who has earned many highly honorable titles, Commander, Colonel, Captain, Commissioner, Chairman, etc. So for Christmas Hannah appropriately adorned her dad's truck with his brand new title, **CLEMSON DAD**. GO GIRL! So let's hear it, Randy, can you say, "Gooooo Tigers!"?

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

to be considered at the Division Convention March 17.

Article III
Section 2
First Sentence

Current

The South Carolina Division, SCV is subdivided into brigades consisting of two or more counties contiguous to each other, taking into account traditional and historic regions of the State.

Proposed

The South Carolina Division, SCV is subdivided into brigades consisting of at least one county, taking into account traditional and historic regions of the State to be determined by the Division Executive Council.

Article VI
Section 5
Second Paragraph

Current

Brigade Commanders may appoint a First Lieutenant Commander to assist in the support of Brigade Camps and programs.

Proposed

Brigade Commanders shall appoint a First Lieutenant Commander to assist in the support of Brigade Camps and programs.

Cat Litter, cont. from page 1

worthy historical facts that we too often take for granted. **HISTORY** matters! And as patriotic Americans we must never forget from whence we came and all the events, good and not so good, that make us what we are today. Like it or not, America, and certainly South Carolina, is the sum of all the events of its historical past. To alter, ignore or selectively omit important historical factors of our past is just plain stupid and grossly irresponsible, especially for a major news media outlet such as *The State*.

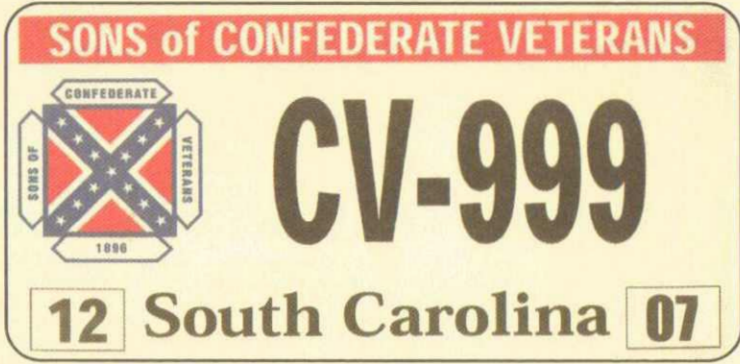
But for God's sake, how does O.J. Simpson in California and homosexual couples in Vermont trump South Carolina's Secession as historically more important and of any real interest to the people of our state? **HISTORY** matters! But, come on now, O.J. and gay couples aren't a matter of **HISTORY**. Rather, they are just more of the liberal foul-tasting **NEWS** that *The State* newspaper just can't resist to reprint.

And on top of all this, we now find that with major improvements in the absorbency of cat litter and the ease of its disposal, *The State* isn't even worthy of cat box liner anymore. Maybe *The State* should list in its **HISTORY** feature next December 20th,

2006: Technological advancements in cat litter render *The State* totally obsolete.

But to be fair, that's probably not **HISTORY** either, but it sure would be very welcomed **NEWS**! The cats are going to miss you, *State* newspaper! Meow!

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"Up & Coming..."

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Feb. 16-18, 2007	Battle for Columbia	Columbia/Sandy Run	Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp	Tommy Rollings, 803-791-7730
Feb. 17, 2007	Hunley Memorial	Charleston	Confederate Heritage Trust	Jeff Antley, 843-478-0516
Feb. 23-25, 2007	Battle of Aiken	Aiken	BG Barnard E. Bee Camp	John Cook, 803-644-8298
Mar. 16, 2007	Executive Committee	Warren Lasch Center	SC Division	Irvin Shuler, Dixieforrest@aol.com
Mar. 16-17, 2007	Division Convention	Mt. Pleasant	Moultrie Camp	Jeff Antley, 843-478-0516
Mar. 25, 2007	Wade Hampton Memorial	Columbia	Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp	Bob Slimp, ruslimp@mindspring.com
May 5, 2007	SCV Conf. Memorial Day	Columbia	SC Division	Dean Stevens, cpldsofthb@aol.com
May 10, 2007	Confederate Memorial Day	Statewide	All Camps	Camp Commanders
July 25-28, 2007	SCV National Convention	Mobile, Alabama	National SCV	SCV Web Site, www.scv.org

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www.hunley.org

Oakwood Cemetery Reclaimed, South Carolinian First to be Honored

On a beautifully clear and sunny day in Richmond, Virginia on November 4, 2006, a large group of South Carolinians assembled to mark the “Opening Ceremony” or rededication of Oakwood Cemetery. The air smelled clean and the temperature was a brisk 50 to 60 degrees. It was an ideal temperature for those who wore the gray wool uniforms. There was a sense of awe and joy to be in the “nation’s capital”. Emotions ran their course as all listened to speakers Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan, SC Division Commander Randy Burbage, Virginia Division Commander Frank Ernest, ladies of the UDC and other dignitaries. Scores of SC compatriots were in attendance representing Camps from Charleston, Columbia, Union, Darlington, Greenville, Florence and Dillon counties.

The “Opening Ceremony”, as it was called, was significant for several reasons. First, the hallowed grounds are home to more than **17,000** brave Confederate soldiers. Second, after years of substandard care of the graves and political wrangling over its management, Oakwood is now in the hands of the SCV.

The Capt. Andrew .T. Harlee Camp #2010 from Dillon sent its honor guard known as the Harlee Guard. Twenty-six guard members made the long trip including one from Florida. The Virginia Division had chosen a South Carolinian to be the first honored by restoring his grave. The grave restored was that of Lt. Duncan Campbell Stafford from Dillon County.

The story really began two years ago and heightened this past August at the National SCV Convention in New Orleans. At the meeting of the Army of Northern Virginia, Division Commander Frank Ernest made a heartened appeal for all to be in attendance at Oakwood for the November dedication. The following month at the annual meeting of the Palmetto Battalion in Columbia, Division Commander Randy Burbage did likewise appealing for all to attend this special event honoring a South Carolinian.

Who exactly was Lt. Duncan Campbell Stafford? He fought from First Manassas to Gettysburg and along the way at Chickamauga, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor. His untimely death came at the hands of a Yankee sharpshooter in 1863. Camp 2010’s namesake, Andrew Turpin Harlee, was Lt. Stafford’s Captain of the 8th Regiment, South Carolina Infantry in which both men served. Captain Harlee said of Lt. Stafford, “He was an excellent young man, of fine character and very promising.”

Lt. Stafford was born in Marion County at an area known as Little Rock. In 1910 this area became part of Dillon County. Before the Revolutionary War, the county was known as Liberty

County. The name was later changed to Marion County to honor Revolutionary War General Francis Marion.

Lt. Stafford’s home was also part of the Pee Dee Valley region. It was named for the Indian tribe who was once prominent here. This area is still painted with meandering streams, Spanish moss, sweeping rivers, thick southern pine forests scattered with pecan, live oak and hickory trees and extensive wildlife. The terrain consists of rolling hills and a dark, rich soil suitable for nurturing tobacco, cotton, corn, and rice and indigo. This area of South Carolina was the agricultural plantation area of the state. Before the War for Southern Independence this was one of the wealthiest areas in the South.

Lt. Stafford’s ancestors were from Scotland. He was from a loving and close knit family who cared about one another. They loved their God, their country and their fellow man. It was his older brother Capt. James H. Stafford who, with Capt. Andrew T. Harlee, mustered a company to defend South Carolina.

Everyone has heard the story of the Yankee soldier asking a non-slave owning Confederate, “Why are you fighting us?” and the reply was “Because you are here.” So, why were we there at Oakwood? First, we were there to honor and thank the Virginia Division for having this ceremony for a South Carolinian. We were there because Lt. Stafford was one of us. We were there to reclaim our native son.

By chance two Harlee Guard members had been working on a wilderness family cemetery they discovered over a year ago.

They had cleared the underbrush, the fallen trees and vines at that site. Nature had overrun the location so much so that the headstones, iron gates and fence could not be seen. After months of difficult labor, that cemetery is now ready for a memorial service for the soldiers and family buried there.

So what is the connection between that family cemetery and Oakwood, you ask? That cemetery is none other than the family cemetery of Lt. Duncan Stafford. His mother and father and other family members are buried there. The two Harlee Guard members, James Price and Billy Norton gathered soil from the graves of Lt. Stafford’s mother and father. Some years ago another Stafford family member spread soil from Scotland among those same graves. As a tribute to the Stafford family, Mr. Price and Mr. Norton spread that same soil tying together Lt. Stafford’s family and ancestors. And soil from Lt. Stafford’s grave at Oakwood was brought back to South Carolina to be spread upon the Stafford family graves at the future ceremony to be held there. Soils from South Carolina, Scotland and Virginia have been sown together. It was an event of many lifetimes.

Well done, men of the Capt. Andrew T. Harlee Camp and all of the South Carolinians who joined them!



The Charge

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”

The Charge is the official “Mission Statement of the Sons of Confederate Veterans”

Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee
Commander General, United Confederate Veterans
Reunion at New Orleans, 1906



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The *Palmetto Partisan* is the official publication of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.